

2 More GOP Senators Urge Casey to Quit as CIA Chief

By ROBERT L. JACKSON, *Times Staff Writer*

WASHINGTON—Assistant Senate Majority Leader Ted Stevens (R-Alaska) and Sen. William V. Roth Jr. (R-Del.) called Friday for the resignation of William J. Casey as CIA director. But Casey said he would stay for "months ahead."

The two influential Republicans thus joined Sen. Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.), chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, in urging that Casey quit as head of the Central Intelligence Agency.

As Goldwater had Thursday night, Stevens and Roth said in separate statements that Casey had shown bad judgment in hiring Max Hugel as the CIA's clandestine services chief. Hugel resigned this month amid charges that he had been involved in improper stock deals.

Stevens suggested that more em-

barrassing allegations against Casey might come to light.

"I'm not privy to all the information they have," Stevens said, referring to the Intelligence Committee. "But it is my judgment that Barry (Goldwater) doesn't make those recommendations lightly."

In criticizing Casey for hiring Hugel, Stevens said that "there is a feeling the agency has been weakened."

Roth, chairman of the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, said, "Mr. Casey's past associations have compromised his ability to effectively serve as head of our nation's intelligence community. . . . The United States cannot afford to see its intelligence service diverted from its critical responsibilities by

the kinds of allegations now being made."

Casey, a friend of Hugel, was chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission during the Nixon Administration. In the wake of the Hugel resignation, federal court rulings came to light in New York and New Orleans in which judges had criticized Casey's conduct as a director of Multiponics Inc., a now-defunct agricultural firm.

In response to a statement by Goldwater that Casey "made over \$750,000" from his Multiponics investment, Casey issued a statement Friday in which he reiterated that he had lost \$150,000.

"I sincerely regret that Sen. Goldwater has provided with inaccurate information," Casey said. "We have worked long hours to provide answers to those questions and to provide the necessary materials (to the Intelligence Committee)."

The committee is to receive a preliminary report from its staff Tuesday on the Hugel and Casey stock transactions.

Casey said documents he will submit next week "will lay this entire controversy to rest."

"I look forward to a continued close and productive relationship with Sen. Goldwater," he said, "and with all other members of the Senate and House select committees on intelligence as we work together in the months ahead to strengthen this country's intelligence capabilities."

Withstanding the Pressure

A friend of Casey who requested anonymity said he knew of no additional damaging information but added, "I don't know how he can withstand the pressure" to resign.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes said President Reagan still has "full confidence" in Casey. However, the President has asked aides to solicit the views of various senators regarding Casey, Speakes said.

"Bill (Casey) doesn't run away from a fight," one high Administration official said. "I think the President feels very strongly he (Casey) should not be railroaded, unless they come up with something more than what we've seen."

Senate Majority Leader Howard H. Baker Jr. (R-Tenn.) said the Casey affair was "a serious matter." Baker refused to suggest what Casey should do but said he had "great confidence in his (Goldwater's) judgment and opinion."

"I am confident he will handle the matter appropriately," Baker said of Goldwater, the Intelligence Committee chairman.